

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/575,516

Examiner

Joshua D Campbell

Applicant(s)

RAMALEY ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the Request for Continued Examination filed on 11/04/2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 21-37.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 22 May 2000 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☒ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. This action is responsive to communications: Request for Continued Examination filed on 11/04/2004.
2. Claims 23-31 are pending in this case. Claim 23 is independent claims. Claims 1-22 have been cancelled. Claims 23-31 have been newly added.
3. The Rejection of claims 1-5 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mori et al. (US Patent Number 5,040,142, issued on August 13, 1991) in view of Weingarten (teach yourself... Word Perfect 6.1 for Windows, published in 1995) have been withdrawn due to the cancellation of the claims rejected.
4. The Rejection of claims 4-8 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mori et al. (US Patent Number 5,040,142, issued on August 13, 1991) in view of Weingarten (teach yourself... Word Perfect 6.1 for Windows, published in 1995) as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Netscape Communications Corporation (Netscape Navigator Gold, Version 3.01 Gold) have been withdrawn due to the cancellation of the claims rejected.
5. The Rejection of claims 10 and 18 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mori et al. (US Patent Number 5,040,142, issued on August 13, 1991) in view of Novell (Press Release, published in 1997) have been withdrawn due to the cancellation of the claims rejected.
6. The Rejection of claims 11-17 and 19-22 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mori et al. (US Patent Number 5,040,142, issued on August 13, 1991) in view of Novell (Press Release, published in 1997) as applied to claims 10 and

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18 above, and further in view of Weingarten (teach yourself... Word Perfect 6.1 for Windows, published in 1995) have been withdrawn due to the cancellation of the claims rejected.

Oath/Declaration

7. The oath or declaration is defective. A new oath or declaration in compliance with 37 CFR 1.67(a) identifying this application by application number and filing date is required. See MPEP §§ 602.01 and 602.02.

The oath or declaration is defective because:

Non-initialed and/or non-dated alterations have been made to the oath or declaration. See 37 CFR 1.52(c). The address of three of the inventors has been altered and the corrections have not been initialed and dated.

8. Applicant is now required to submit a substitute declaration or oath to correct the deficiencies set forth 01/25/2005. The substitute oath or declaration must be filed within the THREE MONTH shortened statutory period set for reply in the "Notice of Allowability" (PTO-37). Extensions of time may NOT be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136. Failure to timely file the substitute declaration (or oath) will result in ABANDONMENT of the application. The transmittal letter accompanying the declaration (or oath) should indicate the date of the "Notice of Allowance" (PTOL-85) and the application number in the upper right hand corner.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

9. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding added independent claim 23, none of the references, either singularly or in combination, teach or suggest to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention the amended features, "...checking whether a unique review identifier associated with the copy of the electronic document is included in a registry wherein the presence of unique review identifier indicates that the copy of the electronic document is opened on the author's computer; in response to detecting the first property with the application program and determining that the unique review identifier is not in the registry displaying on the display device a review toolbar comprising selectable control elements corresponding to document review operations..." The examiner notes that while editing an electronic document using an interface is not a novel feature (See Examiner Referenced Patents and Non-patent Literature), but in combination with the other limitations of the method steps and system functions of the independent claim (i.e. checking whether a unique review identifier associated with the copy of the electronic document is included in a registry wherein the presence of unique review identifier indicates that the copy of the electronic document is opened on the author's computer; in response to detecting the first property with the application program and determining that the unique review identifier is not in the registry displaying on the display device a review toolbar comprising selectable control elements corresponding to document review operations) the limitations of claim 1 are considered novel, and unobvious to a

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person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made in view of the prior art of record.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joshua D Campbell whose telephone number is (571) 272-4133. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:00 AM - 4:30 PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Heather Herndon can be reached on (571) 272-4136. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

JDC
January 26, 2005


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